

LAMINATED STRUCTURES

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[0001] This divisional patent application claims priority from U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/945,240 filed on August 31, 2001, *and now U.S. Patent No. 6,657,009* the entirety of which is hereby incorporated by reference. The U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/945,240 claims priority from U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/259,037, filed December 29, 2000, the entirety of which is hereby incorporated by reference.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

[0002] People rely on disposable absorbent articles to make their lives easier. Disposable absorbent articles, such as adult incontinence articles and diapers, are generally manufactured by combining several components. These components typically include a liquid-permeable topsheet; a liquid-impermeable backsheet attached to the topsheet; and an absorbent core located between the topsheet and the backsheet. When the disposable article is worn, the liquid-permeable topsheet is positioned next to the body of the wearer. The topsheet allows passage of bodily fluids into the absorbent core. The liquid-impermeable backsheet helps prevent leakage of fluids held in the absorbent core. The absorbent core generally is designed to have desirable physical properties, e.g. a high absorbent capacity and high absorption rate, so that bodily fluids can be transported from the skin of the wearer into the disposable absorbent article.

[0003] Frequently one or more components of a disposable absorbent article are adhesively bonded together. For example, adhesives have been used to bond individual layers of the absorbent article, such as the topsheet (also known as, for example, the body-side liner) and backsheet (also known as, for example, the outer cover), together.